

Preliminary Alternative #15

Corresponding to Alternative Formulation Strategy 1B,2B,3B,4A - Minimum

Primary Conflict	Approach to Resolve Conflict
Fisheries and Diversions (Conflict 1)	Increase Fish Productivity (1A) Diversion Modification (1B)
Habitat and Land Use/Flood Protection (Conflict 2)	Preserve Existing Land Use (2A) Create Additional Habitat Area (2B)
Water Supply Availability and Beneficial Uses (Conflict 3)	Reduce Critical Export Area Demands (3A) Enhance Delta Supplies as Inflows (3B)
Water Quality and Land Use (Conflict 4)	Managing Quality of Delta Inflow (4A) Manage In-stream/In-delta Water Quality (4B)
Minimum or Maximum	

Solution Overview

This minimum alternative focuses on preventing the loss of fish due to entrainment at diversions. The creation of additional habitat is chosen over the preservation of existing land uses. The reduction of demand for Delta exports during critical periods are favored over increasing Delta inflow and the prevention of upstream pollution is favored over the post-diversion treatment of water to improve quality.

Actions Selected

Habitat - A small number of discretionary actions to preserve existing habitat have been included.

Populations - A small number of actions are included to alter diversion rates and timing to reduce the effects on fish of entrainment.

Diversions - No actions to reduce critical export demands, are included in this alternative.

Water Use - No actions to increase the amount of water put to out-of-stream beneficial uses are included.

Water Quality - The quality of water flowing into the Delta will be modestly improved due to a few actions to reduce the pollutants in agricultural drainage.

Land Use/Levees/Flood Protection - No discretionary actions to increase flood protection are included.

Institutional - As a minimal alternative, no institutional guarantees are included.

Preliminary Assessment

Only a few actions to increase fish productivity are included, despite the ability to create additional habitat because of the emphasis on reducing the impacts of diversions and the minimal nature of the alternative. These also result in few actions to improve the status of endangered fish species, improve Delta ecosystem health, reduce the critical demands on the Delta, improve water quality, or flood protection. Only negligible improvements could be expected in resolving any of the conflicts.